

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☐
no ☐

Property Name: Shawan House Inventory Number: BA-174
Address: Falls Road, north of Tufton Avenue City: Cockeysville (Hunt Valley) Zip Code: 21030
County: Baltimore USGS Topographic Map: Baltimore County, Cockeysville Quadrangle
Owner: T. Courtney J. Whedbee Is the property being evaluated a district? NO
Tax Parcel Number: _____ Tax Map Number: _____ Tax Account ID Number: _____
Project: Branchwater Farm Agency: Federal Communications Commission
Site visit by MHT Staff: ☒ no ☐ yes Name: _____ Date: _____
Is the property located within a historic district? ☒ yes ☐ no

If the property is within a district

District Inventory Number: _____

NR-listed district ☐ yes Eligible district ☐ yes District Name: Worthington Valley NR District

Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ☒ yes ☐ no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ☐

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)

Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible ☒ yes ☐ no

Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Maryland Historical Trust Worksheet Nomination Form for the National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, dated January 01, 1976.

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

Shawan House was most recently observed and photographed in February, 2003. Its condition was unchanged since the preparation of the Maryland Historical Trust Worksheet Nomination Form for the National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service in the library of the Maryland Historical Trust.

The property is described in the Maryland Historical Trust Worksheet Nomination Form for the National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, prepared by Catherine F. Black and James T. Wollon, Jr., AIA on January 01, 1976. Following is a brief statement of observations made during a visit to the property in February, 2003.

The house and grounds are well-maintained. The property is a visually and historically prominent landmark in Baltimore County, as it has been since the

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended ☐

Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

Comments: Contributes to NR-listed district

[Signature]
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

5/23/03
Date
5/24/03
Date

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC SHAWAN HOUSE

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATIONSTREET & NUMBER West side Falls Road,
north of Tufton Avenue

3rd Councilmanic District

CITY, TOWN

Cockeysville

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2nd Congressional District

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore County

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME T. Courtenay J. Whedbee

Telephone #: 666-1861

STREET & NUMBER

Shawan

CITY, TOWN

Cockeysville

☐ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21030

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, COUNTY COURTS BUILDING

Liber #: 4077

Folio #: 171

STREET & NUMBER

401 Bosley Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland 21204

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

MHT Invenotry No. BA 174

TITLE Baltimore County Historic Sites Inventory
Maryland Historical Trust (also within Worthington Valley Historic District)

DATE

Ongoing since 1964.

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

21 State Circle

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

74 DESCRIPTION

B4-174

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

SHAWAN HOUSE is a five-bay, two and one-half story, gabled roof brick house, on a stone foundation with a three-bay, two-story brick rear (or north) wing and, on each end, an arcade-colonnade hyphen leading to a square gazebo. The three easterly bays of the main house and the north wing comprise the original house; the two westerly bays, the hyphens, the gazebos, and extensive portions of the interior were added ca. 1930.

Although the normal entrance to the house is on the north side, the south front is the principal front. The south front, both ends, and the east side of the north wing are laid in Flemish bond without closers, of bricks selected to achieve uniformity in color, with narrow joints. The central bay, containing the south entrance, projects slightly and is terminated in the roof with a pediment, containing an oval-shaped leaded window. The bricks of the projected central bay appear to be original, but a slight change in mortar color suggests the projection was added when the two westerly bays were added, using original face bricks. The brickwork of the two westerly bays is an excellent match, but of a slightly different color.

The north side, and all but the east side of the rear wing, are laid in common bond. The north side of the hyphens is an arcade, being a Flemish bond brick wall pierced by a single arch, while the south side is a three-bay colonnade with columns of the Ionic order. The square gazebos are of brick, laid in Flemish bond with a single, wide arched opening on each side. Gazebo roofs are pyramidal, covered with standing seam copper.

A wooden surround enframes the double south doors and leaded transom and consists of recessed fluted pilasters of the Greek Doric order, a frieze and a flat cornice with dentils. Above it, in the second story, is a shallow wrought-iron balcony with lyre motif and a flat three-part window containing casement sash.

Sheltering the single north door, with its leaded transom, is a one-story porch of the Greek Ionic order, added in the twentieth century. A flat three-part window is above the north entrance, slightly lower than typical second-story windows, lighting the staircase landing inside.

Windows are 6/6, except for windows flanking both the north and south doors, which are 4/4. A jack arch of rubbed brick, one and one-half bricks in height, supports the masonry above each window.

At the second story level, each end wall contains three windows; the first story is of a similar pattern, but the southerly opening is a door into the hyphen.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

A wooden cornice extends around the entire building and up the rakes of the south pediment and each pedimented end gable. Its decoration includes alternating modillions and rosettes.

On the south side, four dormers — two on either side of the central pediment — and on the north side, three dormers light the attic story. The gabled roof is covered with slate as are the dormer walls.

Single end-chimneys are flush with the gables, but a chimney rises through the north slope of the roof, west of the center bay. It now serves the furnace, but it may replace an earlier west-end chimney before the house was extended in length.

The basic plan of the house is center hall with principal staircase, with two rooms on either side; (as noted above, the two west rooms were added ca. 1930)

The foundation walls are of stone. Under each interior partition of the original portion is a brick wall, pierced with a series of broad, low arches. Arches in the chimney foundations support hearths above. The ceiling is completely covered with a composition board finish. The cellar is beneath the main house only.

Two early outbuildings are closely related to the kitchen wing. Directly north is a one-story brick smokehouse with a gable roof. East of the path to the smokehouse is a square, one-story stone dairy house with a pyramidal roof and masonry water troughs inside. The hewn roof framing of the latter is of particular interest, consisting of crossed girders from each corner supporting a post to the roof peak, and two pairs of ceiling joists from each half of the diagonal girder to the top wall plate

by James T. Wollon, A.I.A.

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Shawan House has been placed at c. 1740 and 1760 by some writers, but research by Catherine F. Black and James T. Wollon, Jr. in connection with the Worthington Valley National Register district nomination suggests that the house is of 19th Century origin, built c. 1823-1833. One of the Worthingtons who testified in a lawsuit of 1905 thought that the house was then about a century old, or built c. 1805. (1)

The mansion stands on a commanding height overlooking the crossroads of Falls Road and Tufton Avenue-Shawan Road. The ground itself was surveyed in 1728 as Shawan Hunting Ground, a 1,500-acre tract laid out for Thomas Todd, who apparently did not settle there. (2)

This land, per Mrs. Black's research, was comparatively unsettled at the time of both the 1783 and 1798 tax lists, when only frame structures were to be found. Walter Worthington, son of Samuel Worthington acquired 290 acres of Shawan Hunting Ground in 1808 from Thomas Moale, and the 1823 tax list charged Worthington with some unspecified improvements there. (3)

Mr. Wollon's architectural examination of the house places the central portion in the 1820's period and historical records found by Mrs. Black show that Mrs. Walter (Sarah) Worthington was buried at "Shawan House" in June 1833. (4)

The house was home for John Tolley Hood Worthington from 1827 to 1849. J.H.T. Worthington (not to be confused with three John Tolley/Tolly Worthingtons of Montmorenci) was elected to Congress as a Democrat from 1831 to 1833 and 1837-1841. The Congressman is credited with enlarging the house by adding a wing. His plans called for two wings, but local legends hold that one unlucky card game devoured the funds that would have executed the full plan. (5)

J.H.T. Worthington's son Samuel was the next owner, and Sidney's 1850 map shows him with property on both sides of Falls Road-but this map seems to place "Shawan House" on the wrong (east) side of the road. Taylor's 1857 map also shows "Shawan House" on the east side. The house is shown on the west side, but not clearly identified in the 1877 atlas.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

Samuel Worthington of John died in 1860 leaving his property to his nephew, John Tolly Worthington, 3rd to be held by his sister-in-law, Mrs. Mary Worthington until her son, the heir, would reach 21. (6) The inventory included the tract "Shanan" Hunting Ground, some 600 acres, which included "a brick house, and barn, Log Stable, Stone Quarter, and a hog house used for a little store and some other small outhouses such as hen house." Samuel Worthington had also owned tracts "lying in the commons," and left 23 slaves, a threshing machine, ox cart, 40 sheep, a lot of dairy fixtures, corn, hay, wheat, and rye, plus \$1.50 worth of goods listed as:

1 Lot of Barrels of Trumpery in Cellar. (7)

Various persons rented and farmed Shawan as revealed in later testimony. John S. Joyce, a carpenter from Butler, farmed the place from 1866 to 1873. A Mr. Akehurst was mentioned as putting in corn for another tenant, and when a lawsuit was filed in 1905, Daniel C. Dubbs was the tenant.

John Tolley Worthington, 3rd died in 1894 and left Shawan Farm to his nephews Charles A. Conrad and Leonetto Cipriani. The heirs filed a suit in 1905 seeking permission to sell the property, and the bill of complaint stated:

Shawan Farm is now and was at the time of the death of the testator improved by a Mansion House, several small tenement houses and a number of out buildings, all of which were at the testator's death and are now greatly in need of repair and being gradually depreciated in value for want of improvement and repair 900 to 1000 acres (8)

Mrs. Sallie H. Conrad, owner of Montmorenci, testified that Shawan was in the family about 100 years and she was familiar with it 48 to 50 years. Her recommendation was for selling the property:

... the boys not being farmers, and experience has shown that good tenants are impossible to get, and the average tenant injures the property. (9)

Edward N. Rich, attorney for the heirs, stated that from 1886 until just before the trial, he had never been made an offer for the place. He added that:

Mr. Worthington left no money for improving or keeping up the improvements buildings at the time of Mr. Worthington's death were very old

but the property had "been carefully farmed for the last five or six years." (10)

The court permitted the trustee to accept an offer of \$17,500 from C. Morton Stewart, a noted sportsman and gentleman farmer. Stewart took title to 623 acres in July of 1905. (11) The 1918 tax ledger showed him with five dwellings, three barns, two stone silos, two barracks, store, engine house, and numerous other structures, including a new tool house. The main dwelling measured:

2 stories	37 X 40	\$1,000. (12)
2 stories	20 X 28	

Stuart agreed to sell to C. Wilbur Miller in 1928, and the tract passed to him via a corporation called Worthington Valley Company which had gone into receivership. During the 1930's and 40's, Mr. Miller carried out extensive alterations that completed the balanced design of the house, which was

skillfully converted during the 20th Century into the imposing mansion it is today.

Interior embellishments, including period work probably removed from condemned early Baltimore houses, and extensive landscaping have created an effect of graciousness and ease. (13)

The house passed to Mr. and Mrs. T.J.C. Whedbee in 1962, Mrs. Whedbee being the daughter of Mr. Miller. The 1967 garden tour book reported that:

So skillfully has the addition been made that it is difficult to tell where the pre-Revolutionary [?] house ends and the modern construction begins. Two Rhinehart mantels in the dining and living rooms are particularly interesting. Beautiful English boxwood surrounds the house. The present owners are renovating four separate gardens, including an 18th Century walled kitchen garden dominated by a white oak, one of the largest in Maryland. (14)

otes:

- (1) Black and Wollon, "Shawan House," National Register form, Jan. 1, 1976.
- (2) Patents, Liber IL No. B, f. 326, Hall of Records.
- (3) Deeds, B. City, Liber WG 97, f. 278. The 1783 tax list charged the 290 acres to John Moale, Esq. and showed only 16 pounds 10 shillings worth of improvements. Walter Worthington acquired 33 more acres of Shawan Hunting Ground in 1817 from the widow of Abraham Griffith, who had owed only frame houses on the 1798 tax list. (WG 140:484).
- (4) Black and Wollon, "Shawan House."
- (5) Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage (Baltimore, 1949), n.p.
- (6) B.C. Wills, JLR 2, f. 75.
- (7) B.C. Inventories, JLR 4, f. 170, 444.
- (8) Judicial Records, WPC 203, f. 347, 349.
- (9) Judicial, WPC 203, f. 363.
- (10) Judicial, WPC 203, f. 364-365.
- (11) Deeds WPC 287, f. 463.
- (12) Tax Ledger, District 8, 1918, f. 526.
- (13) Black and Wollon, 1976.
- (14) Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage (Baltimore, 1967), p. 46.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Catherine F. Black and James T. Wollon, Jr., AIA, "Shawan House,"
National Register Nomination form, Jan. 1, 1976.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 27.7 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE None

COUNTY None

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE John W. McGrain, Executive Secretary
Landmarks Preservation Commission

ORGANIZATION Baltimore County
Office of Planning and Zoning

DATE

August 29, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

401 Bosley Avenue

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created
by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the
Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA,
1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information
and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringe-
ment of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

(Within Worthington Valley NR district)

BA-174

PAGE # 03017+2304

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME				
COMMON: Shawan House				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: Falls Road north of Tuften Avenue				
CITY OR TOWN: Cockeysville				
STATE Maryland		COUNTY: Baltimore		
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Religious _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific _____				
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME: T. Courtney J. Whedbee				
STREET AND NUMBER: Shawan House				
CITY OR TOWN: Cockeysville		STATE: Maryland		
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Baltimore County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER: Washington Avenue				
CITY OR TOWN: Towson		STATE: Maryland		
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): 4077/171				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY: Baltimore County Landmarks				
DATE OF SURVEY: 1971 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Baltimore County Historical Society				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Cockeysville		STATE: Maryland		

7. DESCRIPTION			
CONDITION	(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair
	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)		(Check One)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE			
<p>SHAWAN HOUSE is a five bay, two and one-half storey, gabled roof brick house, on a stone foundation, with a three bay, two storey brick rear (or north) wing, and on each end, an arcade-colonnade hyphen leading to a square gazebo. The three easterly bays of the main house, and the north wing, comprise the original house; the two westerly bays, the hyphens, the gazebos and extensive portions of the interior were added ca. 1930.</p> <p>Although the normal entrance to the house is on the north side, the south front is the principal front. The south front, both ends, and the east side of the north wing are laid in Flemish bond without closers, of bricks selected to achieve uniformity in color, with narrow joints. The central bay, containing the south entrance, projects slightly and is terminated in the roof with a pediment, containing an oval-shaped leaded window. The bricks of the projected central bay appear to be original but a slight change in mortar color suggests the projection was added when the two westerly bays were added, using original face bricks. The brickwork of the two westerly bays is an excellent match, but of a slightly different color.</p> <p>The north side, and all but the east side of the rear wing, are laid in common bond. The north side of the hyphens is an arcade, being a Flemish bond brick wall pierced by a single arch, while the south side is a three bay colonnade with columns of the Ionic order. The square gazebos are of brick, laid in Flemish bond, with a single, wide arched opening on each side. Gazebo roofs are pyramidal, covered with standing seam copper.</p> <p>A wooden surround enframes the double south doors and leaded transom, and consists of recessed fluted pilasters of the Greek Doric order, a frieze and a flat cornice with dentils. Above it, in the second storey, is a shallow wrought-iron balcony with lyre motif and a flat three part window</p>			

(Continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☐ 18th Century ☒ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Shawan House is spectacularly situated overlooking the crossroads of Falls Road and Tufton Avenue. It was built as a substantial dwelling for Walter Worthington and skillfully converted during the 20th century into the imposing mansion it is today. Interior embellishments, including period work probably removed from condemned early Baltimore houses, and extensive landscaping have created an effect of graciousness and ease.

The Shawan Hunting Ground was originally patented in 1728 to Thomas Todd. It was not settled as soon nor as widely as adjoining tracts of land. The 1783 tax assessment and the 1798 Federal Direct Tax list very few settlers and none owning any more substantial structures than a frame house.

In 1817, Walter Worthington, son of Samuel Worthington, who first brought the family into Baltimore County, purchased a piece of land in the Shawan tract. By 1823, this land was improved, although the tax record is not specific about the building there. However, architectural examination, particularly of the central area of Shawan House, indicate that this was undoubtedly the original part of the structure. It is known that the wife of Walter Worthington was buried at Shawan House in 1833, and thus the building date can be said to be between 1823 and 1833.

The house passed down through this branch of the Worthington family. From 1827 to 1849, it was the residence of John Tolley Hood Worthington, a

(continued)

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Baltimore County Tax Assessments: 1783, 1823.

Federal Direct Tax of 1798.

Warfield, J.D. Founders of Anne Arundel and Howard Counties. (Regional Publishing Co. Baltimore, 1967.)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 27.7 acres

Acreage Justification:

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Catherine F. Black and James T. Wollon, Jr. AIA	
ORGANIZATION Worthington Valley Historical District Project	DATE Jan. 1, 1976
STREET AND NUMBER: 1114 Bellemore Road	
CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore	STATE Maryland

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Continuation Sheet - 2

The hall itself is of a generous width and may have been subdivided before the house was lengthened. The principle staircase which rises to the second floor in two runs is of the twentieth century, but designed in the manner of the early nineteenth, with an open stringer, plain rectangular balusters, two per tread, a slender colonnette newel, moulded rail and scrolled step ends. Raised paneling encloses the space beneath the first rise of the staircase, and raised panel wainscoting elsewhere, fully paneled walls beneath the landing, a cornice with modillions, all probably of the twentieth century, complete the embellishment of the central hall.

The secondary stair, in its present location, may have been the original staircase in the house, but the possibility of its being period millwork relocated here from elsewhere should not be discounted. It rises to the second floor in three runs, and extends clear to the third floor; however, most of its parts from the second to the third floor appear to be on the twentieth century. It has an open stringer, scrolled step ends, plain rectangular balusters, two per tread, square, fluted newels of mahogany with bold drop finials beneath the upper newels, and a moulded mahogany railing without easements.

Each south room has a fireplace centered in its respective exterior end wall, and each north room has a corner fireplace against the dividing partition. The two mantels of the south rooms are each of carved white marble, of the twentieth century. The wood mantel in the northeast room is of a style which could be original to the house, consisting of pilasters with projecting panels above each in the frieze, and a similar projecting panel centered in the frieze.

Both south rooms have similar trim, consisting of a moulded baseboard, chair rail with a band of reeding, and a cornice which includes a bed moulding, a reeded soffit, a fascia and crown. The southeast room windows have flat paneled

Question 7

Continuation Sheet

containing casement sash.

Sheltering the single north door, with its loaded transeam, is a one storey porch of the Greek Ionic order, added in the twentieth century. A flat three part window is above the north entrance, slightly lower than typical second storey windows, lighting the staircase landing inside.

Windows are 6/6, except for windows flanking both the north and south doors, which are 4/4. A jack arch of rubbed brick, one and one-half bricks in height, supports the masonry above each window.

At the second storey level, each end wall contains three windows; the first storey is of a similar pattern, but the southerly opening is a door into the hyphen.

A wooden cornice extends around the entire building, and up the rakes of the south pediment and each pedimented end gable. Its decoration includes alternating modillions and resettes.

On the south side, four dormers -- two on either side of the central pediment -- and on the north side, three dormers, light the attic storey. The gabled roof is covered with slate, as are the dormer walls.

Single end chimneys are flush with the gables, but a chimney rises through the north slope of the roof, west of the center bay. It now serves the furnace, but it may replace an earlier west end chimney before the house was extended in length.

The basic plan of the house is center hall with principle staircase, with two rooms on either side; (as noted above, the two west rooms were added ca. 1930) in each case, the north rooms are further divided: the northeast room is reduced by about half by a secondary stair hall immediately east of the center hall; the northwest room is reduced by a bathroom and storage space adjacent to the center hall.

Continuation Sheet - 3

interior shutters, probably original. Doors have six panels in the usual arrangement, raised on both sides. Generally, doors within the east half of the house are fully mortised and tenoned, with wood pins, while doors within the west half have blind tenons without wooden pins. Generally, architraves are of two planes, with a stepped backband with shoulders.

The northeast room has a wooden cornice and chair rail, both probably of the twentieth century. The walls of the northwest room are bookshelves and knottypine paneling; it has a bollection fireplace surround.

Access to the north wing is through the secondary staircase hall. The northerly room was the original kitchen and contains a large cooking fireplace. The southerly room of the north wing is fitted as a modern kitchen.

The second floor plan is related to the first, with a room centered above the south end of the center hall. Each south room is reduced in size by a bathroom adjacent to the central room. The northeast room is entirely a tiled bath, with a tile fireplace surround. Three early nineteenth century mantels are at the remaining fireplaces, with pilasters, architrave, frieze, bed moulding and shelf, embellished with reeding, shallow panels, beading and/or gauge carving. Some of these mantels may be original to the house, or they may have come from elsewhere, most likely from early houses in Baltimore, so many of which were destroyed by the twentieth century expansion of the city. Other second storey trim is generally similar to first storey trim.

The third floor, accessible by way of the secondary stair, is finished as two bedrooms and a bathroom, with simplified trim, related to work elsewhere in the house. Of interest are hewn purlins with diagonal braces, exposed above the plaster and which extend across the openings to the dormers; they are in both the original and the ca. 1930 addition.

Continuation Sheet - 4

The foundation walls are of stone. Under each interior partition of the original portion is a brick wall, pierced with a series of broad, low arches. Arches in the chimney foundations support hearths above. The ceiling is completely covered with a composition board finish. The cellar is beneath the main house only.

Two early outbuildings are closely related to the kitchen wing. Directly north is a one storey brick smoke house with a gable roof. East of the path to the smoke house is a square, one storey stone dairy house with a pyramidal roof and masonry water troughs inside. The hewn roof framing of the latter is of particular interest, consisting of crossed girders from each corner supporting a post to the roofpeak, and two pairs of ceiling joists from each half of the diagonal girder to the top wall plate.

Extensive plantings of English boxwood throughout the grounds surrounding the house are interspersed with other specimen shrubs and trees. Both formal and informal, and intimate and expansive outdoor spaces are formed by the landscape design. The elevation of the house provides a spectacular view to the south.

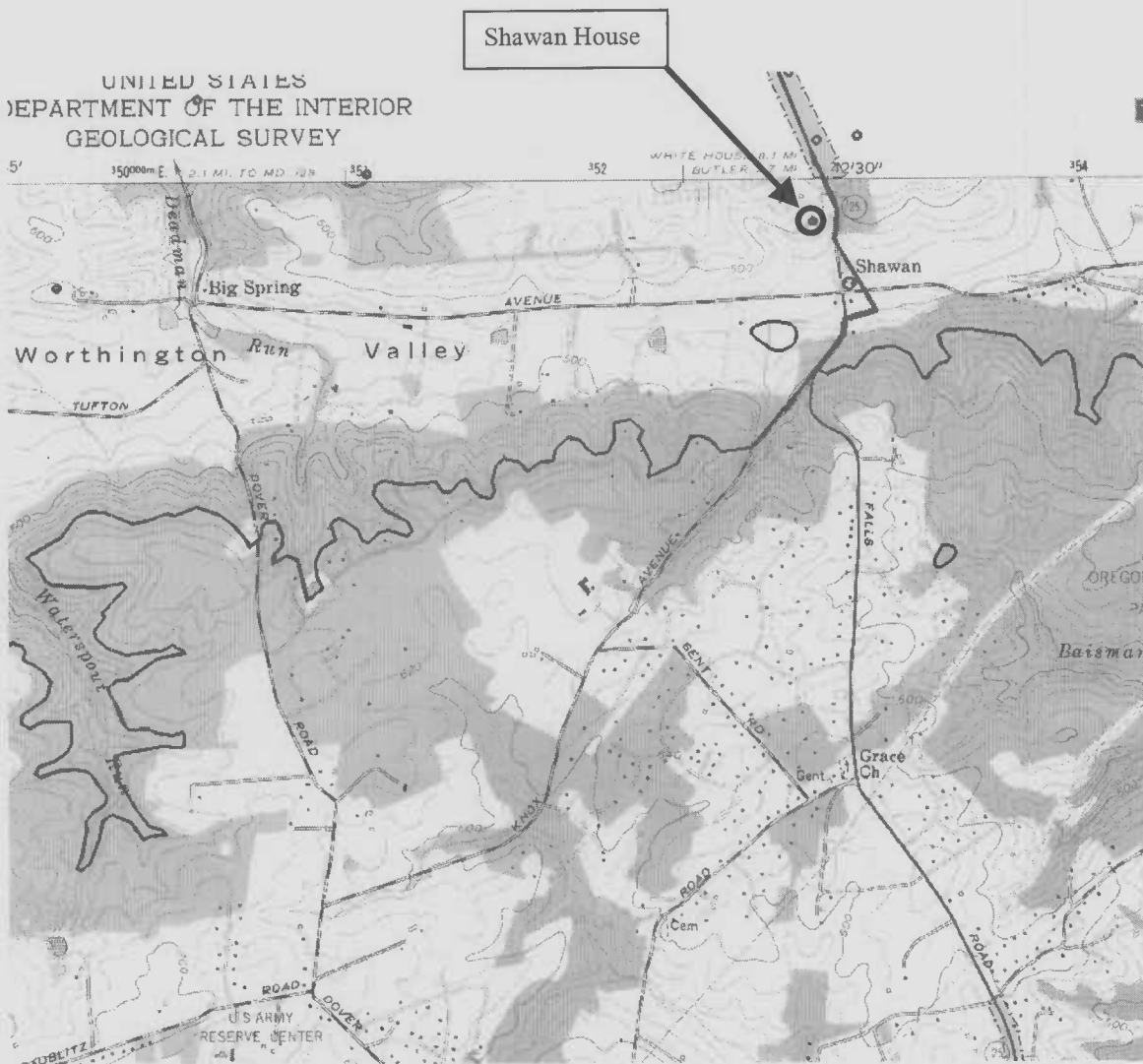
- - - - -

Question 8

Democratic Representative to Congress. His son, Samuel, lived there for some years, but never having married, he left Shawan to his nephews. They, in turn, sold the estate to Charles Morton Stewart, a sportsman and gentleman farmer. The present owner's father, Mr. C. Wilbur Miller, was responsible for the extensive renovations during the 1930's and 40's.

There is a tradition that John Tolley Hood Worthington had plans to enlarge the original house by adding the east and west wings, but due to a loss in a card game, he was forced to abandon his plans. Neither this story nor the tradition that the home was once a tavern can be substantiated. However, the house as it appears today is thought to be as John Tolley Hood Worthington originally designed it.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY





SHAWAN HOUSE BA-174

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

KATHRYN ELGIN

FEB 2003

LOCATION OF NEGATIVE: MARYLAND SHPO 1/1

Shawan House BA-174

Lockeysville, MD 21136

02-03



Shawan
from southwest

1075

BA-174

July 12



Shawson - meathouse
from south

1974
JTW:R

BA-174



Shawna dany
from south-west

BA-174

1979

2701 10